

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2012**

The Organizational Meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held in the Cafeteria of the Mt. Hope High School on Tuesday, November 13, 2012. The meeting was opened by Mr. John Bento at approximately 6:10 p.m.

Present: John Bento, Chair; Paul Silva, Vice-Chair; Karen Lynch, Secretary; Diana B. Campbell, Marj McBride, Susan Rancourt, John P. Saviano; and Lynn Wainwright; Melinda L. Thies, Superintendent; Mario J. Andrade, Assistant Superintendent; Pauline A. Silva, Director of Administration and Finance; Mary N. Almeida, Director of Literacy and Title I; Leslie J. Anderson, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; and Andrew D. Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor (6:22 p.m.)

Absent: William M. O'Dell

All present were invited to Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Bento introduced each of the School Committee Members and welcomed Mrs. Wainwright as the newest member of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee.

Judge Hurst stated it is always a pleasure to be a part of Bristol Warren Regional's swearing in ceremony. Addressing the school committee, she encouraged them in their most important position as having tremendous responsibility to the children. Quoting Anna Isabella from her novel Mrs. Dymond written in 1885, Judge Hurst recited the following: "Give a child a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a child to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." The job of the school committee is to help students become productive members of society. This year we have one new member in addition to four re-elected members. Judge Hurst asked all nine members to raise their right hand and recite the Oath of Office: "I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution and obey the laws of the United States of America and the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the Office of Regional School Committee Member."

Mrs. Thies thanked Judge Hurst for her words of wisdom as well as her loyalty to the district over the years. Mrs. Thies introduced each of the town officials, state officials, members of the community and administrators who were present at the meeting and thanked all for their show of support in attending this evening affirming what we do and the importance of working together within the community for the students.

Mrs. Thies thanked Chairman Bento for his time of service as chair. He was refreshing to work with and always open and positive. He believed there was always room for improvement when working for the children. She said that every decision Chairman Bento made was with the best interest of the student in mind and that he always voted his conscience. Chairman Bento thanked Melinda and said it was an honor to work with her and the staff who are truly dedicated to the children. Chairman Bento thanked all members of the school committee for entrusting him to be their chair and said it has been a privilege to work with them as each member is passionate about what they do and truly passionate about the children. Mrs. Thies officially presented to Mr. Bento a gavel in recognition of his service as Chair.

Mr. Bento then turned the meeting over to Superintendent Thies.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair

Mrs. Thies asked for nominations for Chair. Mrs. Lynch nominated Mr. Silva; Mrs. Rancourt seconded. There being no more nominations, Mr. Saviano motioned to declare nominations closed; Mrs. McBride seconded. The nomination for Mr. Silva as Chair passed by a vote of 6 to 1, with Mr. Silva abstaining and Mrs. Campbell opposed.

Mrs. Thies turned control of the meeting over to the new Chair, Mr. Silva. Mr. Silva thanked everyone and hopes to live up to their expectations of him as chairman..

Vice-Chair

Mr. Silva asked for nominations for Vice-Chair. Mr. Saviano nominated Mr. Bento; Mrs. Campbell seconded. There being no more nominations, Mrs. McBride motioned to declare nominations closed; Mr. Saviano seconded. The nomination for Mr. Bento as Vice-Chair passed by a vote of 7 to 0, with Mr. Bento abstaining.

Secretary

Mr. Silva asked for nominations for Secretary. Mrs. Rancourt nominated Mrs. Lynch. Mr. Saviano seconded. There being no more nominations, Mr. Saviano motioned to declare nominations closed; seconded by Mrs. Rancourt. The nomination for Mrs. Lynch as secretary passed by a vote of 6-1 with Mrs. Lynch abstaining and Mrs. Campbell opposed.

Treasurer

Mr. Silva asked for nominations for Treasurer. Mr. Bento nominated Mrs. Rancourt; Mrs. Lynch seconded. Mr. Silva asked if there were anymore nominations. Mrs. Campbell nominated Mrs. McBride. Mrs.

McBride thanked her for the nomination, but respectfully declined. There being no further nominations, Mr. Saviano made a motion to declare nominations closed; seconded by Mrs. McBride. The nomination of Mrs. Rancourt as Treasurer passed by a vote of 6 to 1 with Mrs. Rancourt abstaining and Mrs. McBride opposed.

Chairman Silva brought everyone's attention to the fliers for an Open House to be held on Wednesday, November 14, 2012, for the Robotic's Team from 5 -7 p.m. Bristol Warren Regional's Robotics Team has gone on to the World Championships which is a very prestigious event where many scholarships are received.

Chairman Silva confirmed with Mrs. Thies that the Executive Session on this evening's agenda was for an update on Council 94, but since the posting of that agenda, the contract was ratified last Thursday, November 8th. It was agreed to push the Executive Session out to the next School Committee Meeting. Chairman Silva suggested the Executive Session be placed at the top of the agenda to accommodate any questions by the school committee members. Mrs. Thies also encouraged members to contact her if they have any questions. Chairman Silva stated that a vote by the school committee members to approve the contract will be an action item at the next school committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Campbell motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Saviano. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Lynch, Secretary

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